

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-04-02

Issued at Palmer: May 30, 2002

Effective 6:00 a.m.
Date: Friday, May 31, 2002

Expiration Date: 12:00 midnight, October 1,
2002, unless superseded by subsequent
emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes a portion of the Deshka River to all fishing beginning at 6:00 am, Friday, May 31, 2002. The closed area extends from Department markers located approximately 1,000 yards downstream of the Department of Fish and Game's fish counting weir at River Mile 7 to Department markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the weir. Extending the area closed to fishing around the weir affords additional protection to salmon prior to passage to their upstream spawning areas.

REGULATION:

5 AAC 61.022 (b) WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS. is amended to read:

5AAC 61.022 (b) WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

(2) (B) Deshka River drainage:

SPECIAL PROVISIONS. That portion of the Deshka River from regulatory markers located approximately 1,000 yards downstream of the Deshka River weir to regulatory markers located approximately 200 yards upstream of the weir is closed to sport fishing from 6:00 am, May 31, 2002, until midnight October 1, 2002.

Frank Rue,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Dana Sweet
Assistant Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

Salmon migrating past the Deshka River weir at River Mile 7 commonly experience minor delays before proceeding upstream to spawning areas. This delay concentrates the salmon in resting pools a short distance above and below the weir where they become extremely vulnerable to

harvest by sport fishermen. A continued harvest of these vulnerable fish will jeopardize propagation of future runs. Therefore, it is warranted to extend the closed area downstream of the weir from 300 feet to 1,000 yards and upstream of the weir from 300 feet to 200 yards.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99518, (907) 267-2218.